

References

- Allen, J.E.R., 1906. *Oporabia christyi* Prout: a distinct species. *Entomologist's Rec. J. Var.* **18**: 85-89.
- Bretherton, R.F., 1940. A list of the macro-lepidoptera of the Oxford district. *Proceedings of the Ashmolean Natural History Society* 1939: 25-70.
- Bretherton, R.F., 1941. Additions to the list of macro-lepidoptera of the Oxford district. *Proceedings and report of the Ashmolean Natural History Society* 1940: 22-23.
- Emmet, A.M., 1948. Second supplement to the list of macro-lepidoptera of the Oxford district. *Proceedings and report of the Ashmolean Natural History Society* 1941-1947: 47-55.
- Haggett, G.M., 1981. *Larvae of the British lepidoptera not figured by Buckler*. British Entomological and Natural History Society, London.
- Harper, M., 1980. Observations on *Epirrita dilutata* (Denis and Schiffermuller) and *Epirrita christyi* (Allen) (Lep: Geometridae) in Herefordshire. *Proc. trans. Br. ent. nat. Hist. Soc.* **13**: 106-116.
- Heslop-Harrison, J.W. 1933. The autumnal moths of the genus *Oporinia* Hb. with an account of a new American species. *Transactions of the Northern Naturalists Union* **1**: 111-136.
- Skinner, B., 1984. *Colour identification guide to moths of the British Isles*. Viking. Middx.
- Skou, P., 1986. *The geometroid moths of North Europe*. Entomonograph 6. Brill. Copenhagen.
- Waring, P., in prep. Provisional annotated list of macro-moths, including all known historical records, for the Hell Coppice/Shabbington Wood complex, Bernwood Forest, Buckinghamshire, including the Bernwood Meadows.
- (Note: a first draft of the above is available for comments and addenda.)
- Woodell, S. unpubl. Vascular plant species list for Bernwood. Appendix 1 in Rowell, T.A., 1979. *History and management of Bernwood Forest*. Unpublished B.Sc. thesis. Oxford Polytechnic.

A note on two Tortricinae (Lep.) at Charlton, S.E. London

I have been somewhat surprised at the recent appearance here of *Argyrotaenia ljungiana* Thunb. (= *pulchellana* Haw.), an inhabitant of heathland. The first three came to my m.v. lamp on the night of 5.viii.88, and many (in some variety) on that of 22.vii.89. I had not previously met with it anywhere, nor does this area seem at all suitable to it; there is no wild heather or ling and nothing today, of a truly heathy character. However, there is a small ericetum of recent standing in Charlton Park, so I am much inclined to think that *ljungiana* must have been introduced into the locality with some of the plants. Sokoloff (*Ent. Rec.* **98**: 254-255) records breeding this species from the fruits of *Vitis vinifer* collected from a garden in Battersea, London which may provide an alternative explanation for its occurrence in Charlton. Lt. Col. Emmet kindly named the moth for me.

I should perhaps also mention that *Epiphyas postvittana* Walk. has rapidly become so numerous here as to be, on many nights, the most

abundant tortricid and one of the commonest moths at the lamp — in both broods. I suppose this is now fairly general experience around London, but having seen no positive statement to that effect, I think it worth placing on record. It is also frequently to be met with by day, in casual specimens, about the gardens here — in flight, or sitting on hedges etc., the former probably resulting from disturbance. — A.A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London SE7 8QG.

Late summer movement of insects in south-east London in 1958.

I came upon an account of the above when browsing through my natural history diaries. During a Football League match at the Valley Stadium, Charlton, London SE7, between 3 pm and 5 pm BST on 23.viii.1958, I noticed a fairly strong movement of Diptera and some Lepidoptera south-south-eastwards across the field of play.

At 3 pm when the match began, slight rain was falling from an overcast sky, but by 3.30 pm it began to clear and, when the sun came out soon afterwards, a Meadow Brown butterfly (*Maniola jurtina* L.) flew SSE just above the heads of the spectators packed on the terraces. A few minutes later two Large Whites (*Pieris brassicae* L.) flew over the heads of the crowd in exactly the same manner together with considerable numbers of Diptera, mainly Bibionidae (possibly the Fever-fly *Dilophus febrilis* L.) and, to a lesser extent, Syrphidae — all going in the same direction, SSE. The wind, at the time, was light and from the SSW. It may have been sufficiently strong to have deviated the insects from flying directly south. My observations ceased when the match ended at 5 pm, but the movement was still continuing. If this SSE line of flight over Charlton is projected back over the adjacent River Thames, it passes more or less directly along the line of the Lea Valley in north-east London, a comparatively unbuilt-upon strip of land passing through some densely urbanised districts.

It was the current fashion in 1958 to wear cheap, bright yellow plastic capes, and many spectators sported them. Many of the Bibionids and the Syrphids alighted on these capes, causing considerable annoyance to their owners. Most flew too high, incidentally, to cause more than minor irritation to the footballers.

I witnessed similar movements southwards over the River Thames involving Bibionids, Syrphids and Lepidoptera in late September, 1949 (Burton, J.F., 1950, *Entom.* **83**: 203-206) and in early October 1950 (Burton, J.F. & Owen, D.F., 1951, *Entom.* **84**: 160-161). As described in the first paper, my friend Dr D.F. Owen encountered such a movement south over the Thames marshes at Cliffe, Kent, on 29.viii.1948, the same month in which I saw the movement at Charlton. — J.F. BURTON, Wasserturmstrasse 53, 6904 Eppelheim-Heidelberg, West Germany, 31.vii.1989.